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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Joel Howard Schopp :
Application No. 10/671,061 : DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: September 25, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. :
AUS920030450US1 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed November 14, 2006, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed, October 6, 2005, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time were obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). Accordingly, the application became abandoned on January 7, 2006. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on June 28, 2006.

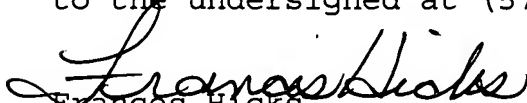
The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply, (2) the petition fee of \$1,500, and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay. Accordingly, the failure to timely reply to the non-final Office action of October 6, 2005 is accepted as being unintentionally delayed.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such

inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2111 for appropriate action in the normal course of business on the reply received November 14, 2006.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3218.


Frances Hicks
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions